

Site: M:26/10/76

415 West Montgomery Avenue

Built: 1904

Builder: Charles Viett, Jr.

Private

In 1904 Charles Viett, Jr. was supervising the construction of two buildings; the new Rockville High School, and this 2-1/2 story frame residence for his family. In this house he combined elements from the Colonial Revival and late Victorian architectural vocabularies. Classical columns, moulded pilasters and fan-lit entry blend with shingled gables, a two-story "Rockville Bay," and bracketed overhanging eaves to present a personal expression of design that has been little altered.

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common 415 West Montgomery

2. Location

street & number 415 West Montgomery Avenue

☐ not for publication

city, town Rockville

☐ vicinity of

congressional district 8

state Maryland

county Montgomery (RV Planning Area 4)

3. Classification**Category**☐ district☒ building(s)☐ structure☐ site☐ object**Ownership**☐ public☒ private☐ both**Public Acquisition**☐ in process☐ being considered☒ not applicable**Status**☒ occupied☐ unoccupied☐ work in progress**Accessible**☐ yes: restricted☐ yes: unrestricted☒ no**Present Use**☐ agriculture☐ commercial☐ educational☐ entertainment☐ government☐ industrial☐ military☐ museum☐ park☒ private residence☐ religious☐ scientific☐ transportation☐ other:**4. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Hal H. and Judy A. Vogel

street & number 415 West Montgomery Avenue

telephone no.: 340-7756

city, town Rockville

state and zip code

Maryland 20850

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.

Montgomery Co. Land Records

liber 6771

street & number

Montgomery Co. Courthouse

folio 309

city, town

Rockville

state

Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title National Register of Historic Places (1974)

te City of Rockville Historic District (1974) ☒ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☒ local

depository for survey records

City of Rockville

city, town Rockville

state

Maryland

7. Description

Survey No. M: 26/10/76

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The subject house faces south on West Montgomery Avenue in a block of contemporary Victorian houses with the same setback. It sits on a deep lot shaded with mature trees and landscaped with shrubs. A two car garage is at the extreme northern property edge, accessed by an east-west alley from Laird Street.

This frame, 2-1/2 story, 3-bay by 3-bay, 1904 Colonial Revival house stands on a brick foundation. It is basically square with a front verandah that wraps around three sides and a rear utility/open porch. The house is sheathed in German siding and there are two interior brick chimneys on the composition shingled flat-topped hipped roof broken by dormers and one side gable.

This house was designed with Colonial Revival features such as panelled 2 story pilasters replacing cornerboards, dentil-like eave brackets, and decorative panels flanking dormer windows. It has a symmetrical facade with strong central vertical focus created by wide stairs, entry complex, three part second-story window, and dormer. Late Victorian influence survives in the fish-scale shingled dormers, "Rockville Bay", and five-bay front verandah wrapping around the east and west sides. Windows are 2-over-2 double sash with projecting sills and wide lintels with drip cap; most have aluminum storm windows and wooden louvered shutters.

The three-bay south (front) facade has a wide cornice board with dentil-like rounded brackets applied under a deep eave overhang. A fish-scale shingled, paired-window dormer is centered on the roof. Its pedimented gable has a wide eave overhang with a pent roof leading to a recessed shingle infill. The facade is symmetrical with one window in each east and west bay, first and second story. The three-part center-bay second story window is formed of a window separated by decorated panels from two flanking narrow ones. This window lacks shutters and storm windows. The first story central entry is formed by four Doric half-columns supporting a lintel with fanlight above and a door centered between two sidelight panels below. A walkway leads to nine cement steps with brick bastions accessing the verandah. The verandah is supported by 11 tall brick piers which reach the top of the plain stick and rail balustrade. The piers are infilled below with lattice panels. Doric half-columns reach from piers to a wide lintel embellished with crown molding set between rounded brackets under a deep eave overhang. The slightly hipped roof is covered with seamed tin. The rear bay of the west verandah is enclosed with German siding and has a central transomed and screened exterior door.

continued on attachment 7.1

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Attachment 7.1

The three-bay east facade has a three-sided, two-story Rockville Bay, square with two east windows on the second story, and three-sided with one window in each side on the first. Solid segmental brackets from the cornerboards of each mitred side join with a pendant at the point of the square overhang which has a flared shingle skirt. The projecting gable roof is constructed as the dormers with the addition of a central window. The remaining fenestration is symmetrical, one window upper and lower stories in each bay. The verandah wraps around to the center section of the Rockville Bay. A square nine-light window is in the east end of the rear porch.

The south (rear) facade has an irregular massing due to additions of a utility room, back porch, and basement entryway and adaptations for apartment use. On the right, a central door is in the enclosed front verandah, now obstructed by stairs which lead from the base of the utility addition to a landing in front of the door, then to an apartment entry on the roof. The one-story shed-roofed utility addition on the southeast corner has a central window, the upper sash of which has a large pane surrounded by smaller panes of glass. To the left is a slightly taller one-story back porch, its seamed-tin shed-roof broken by two skylights. The porch is supported by three square posts and is half open and half enclosed. The open porch has three wooden steps leading to a three light wood door on the right and a small unshuttered window to its left. The enclosed part has one central window and a small front-gabled basement entrance with double wood doors on its west side. A window completes the first floor mainblock. The second floor has a window in in the 1st and 3rd bay and a narrow window in the center. A paired-window dormer is right of center on the roof; the rear chimney is centered.

The three-bay west facade has second story windows in the first and third bays, and a door in the center. A plain post and double railing balustrade and walkway crosses the roof from the rear stairway. The first floor has one window in the north enclosed end of the verandah, a small leaded glass window composed of a center surrounded by small panes in the middle bay, and one window in the south bay. A centered gabled dormer with paired windows flanked by decorative panels has a chimney to its right.

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

local history

Specific dates 1904

Builder/Architect

Charles Viett, Jr. builder

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Significance

This residence was constructed as the home of Charles Viett, Jr. who was active as a Rockville builder in the early 20th century. This house is a unique combination of elements of several architectural styles embellished by the builder's personal choice of decorative detailing.

History and Support

Charles Viett, Jr. was born in Rockville, the son of German-born tinner Charles Viett, Sr., whose craft is displayed on many extant Rockville houses. 1/ In 1893 Charles, Jr., purchased Lot #8 of Section 1 in the fashionable West End Park subdivision; the adjacent lot #7 was added in 1903. 2/ Soon after, construction of the subject house took place, and it appears on the 1904 tax records valued at \$2,700.

The house has a square mainblock with multiple gables. Its front facade is symmetrical, in accordance with the trend of the period toward the revival of classical design. Other Colonial Revival features are the use of decorative moulded panels applied to corner pilasters and surrounding the second story three-part window. The decorative moulding is continued on the elongated piers supporting the wide porch with its Doric columns. An early photograph (ca. 1915) shows this large home surmounted by a railed deck or "widow's walk". (See attachment 8.2)

At the same time he was building this house, Mr. Viett was the contractor for the new Rockville High School designed by Thomas C. Groomes, 3/ but the bulk of Mr. Viett's work was done in small houses of the craftsman/bungalow style. 4/ Both he and his brother William owned lots in the Croyden Park/Janeta subdivision, and Mr. Viett built several houses in these eastern sections of town.

continued on attachment 8.1

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Attachment 8.1

The subject house was sold to dairy farmer Louis Gardiner and his wife Marie in 1910. 5/ The Gardiners raised six children here, including one who returned as a Nun to teach at St. Mary's school.

The Gardiners celebrated their golden wedding anniversary here in 1939. About the same time, an attic apartment unit was created. Mr. Gardiner died in 1947 and Marie Gardiner lived here until 1958. 6/. It was subsequently owned by the Robert Borts and the Charles N. Heimans. From 1975 to 1985, it was the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Lambert. It was sold to Hal and Judy Vogel in 1985.

Footnotes:

1. Viett family information taken from Montgomery County Sentinels, various dates 1904 - 1928.
2. Until 1903, Lots #3,4,5,6 &7 were the property of Rebecca Veirs and then her son, Charles.
3. The Sentinel, May-June-July, 1904, details construction of the new High School building at a cost of \$20,300.
4. Among Mr. Viett's other known works is the addition to the Sandy Spring Bank (1906), The Johnston House at 307 West Montgomery in 1913, and several bungalows described as "on the Pike" in 1926/27.
5. Montgomery County Land Records, 216/466.
6. The Sentinel, November 30, 1961 and various Plats, Real Estate Atlases and tax assessments.

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415 West Montgomery Avenue
Attachment 8.2

415 West Montgomery Avenue
ca. 1915



9. Major Bibliographical References

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Montgomery County Land, Plat and Tax Records. Montgomery County Sentinel.
Genealogies and histories of Viett and Gardiner families.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property — 14,095 square feet

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Lot #8 and Part of lot #7 of Block 1 of West End Park, fronting on West
Montgomery Avenue.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Holly Chamberlain & Anne Cissel	Judy Christensen, Arch. Desc.
organization	Peerless Rockville	date January, 1986
street & number	P.O. Box 4262	telephone 762-0096
city or town	Rockville	state Maryland 20850

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by
an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated
Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and
record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of
individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

1982

City of Rockville

scale: 1"= 600'

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415 W. Montgomery

415 W. Montgomery Ave.





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